

ISSUE
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JOURNAL OF THE
VICE PRESIDENT
FOR

Academic Affairs

this issue

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SAVE THE DATE!!

Spring 2010 Academic
Opening Day

DATE: January 18, 2010

TIME: 8:30 am-12 noon

LOCATION:
New Dining Hall!

School Faculty Meetings in the
afternoon.

More details will be available
after the holidays.

WELCOME TO NEW VPAA JOURNAL EDITOR!

by Deborah Wilcox

We all want to give a warm welcome
to the new editor of the VPAA Journal,
Mayra Gomez!

Mayra is a junior majoring in Creative
Writing. She comes from Norwich, CT.
In addition to her writing, Mayra
enjoys spending as much time as
possible with her nephews!

Mayra's editing work here is providing
her with an Internship for Creative
Writing. As well as editing the Journal,
Mayra is assisting in the Office of
Academic Affairs every afternoon as a
receptionist. Please send your news,
photos, and articles to Mayra at
mayra.gomez@snhu.edu.

Welcome Mayra – we are so
pleased to have you with us!



ASSESSMENT AT SNHU

I'd like to use this month's column to address university-wide assessment. You might recall that I have admitted (on more than one occasion) to being a bit of an "assessment-phobe." But based on the excellent work I am seeing from the assessment committee, having attended Barbara Walvoord's superb workshop last May, and after listening to Deb Wilcox and Nicholas Hunt-Bull extol the virtues of assessment *ad nauseum* . . . I do believe I have become a convert! All kidding aside, Assessment can no longer be regarded as an annoying, "passing fad." With the ever growing focus on "accountability" in higher education, effective assessment of student learning is now an enduring expectation at all colleges and universities.

According to Barbara Walvoord, nationally recognized Assessment expert, "Assessment of student learning can be defined as the systematic collection of information about student learning, using the time, knowledge, expertise, and resources available, in order to inform decisions about how to improve learning." Her three steps of Assessment are very simple: 1) Articulate your goals for student learning; 2) Gather evidence about how well students are meeting the goals; 3) Use the information for improvement (Walvoord, 2004, p. 3). We are bringing Walvoord back to SNHU during "Reflection & Renewal" in May 2010 to work further with faculty and department chairs.

Lastly – let me remind everyone of our ten-year NEASC re-accreditation visit which is scheduled for November 2011. We will soon start preparing our Self-Study and Assessment is of course a vital part of what our visiting team of peers will be reviewing. But NEASC accreditation is NOT why we should be engaging in effective and on-going Assessment! It is time for all of us (*yours truly* included) to change that mindset and develop a culture of Assessment on our campus. We must all embrace it. Assessment will only *improve* our institution by improving everyone's *teaching and learning*. And as all of us know, this is what we are fundamentally about at SNHU.

Walvoord, Barbara. (2004) *Assessment Clear and Simple*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Patricia A. Lynott
VPAA of SNHU

Faculty Awarded Teaching Development Travel Grants

Submitted by
Eleanor Dunfey-Freiburger, Director
The Faculty Center for Innovation and
Excellence in Teaching

Advisory Board: Brandi Hoyt-Biagiotti, Aysun Ficici, Brigid Flanagan, Michele Goldsmith, Liz Henley, Andy Lynch, Puneetha Palakurthi, Greg Randolph, Silvia Spence, Cathy Stavenger, Sarah Strout, Deb Wilcox, Sara Wilson.

The Faculty Center Advisory Board is pleased to announce the 2009-2010 Teaching Development Travel Grant Awards:

Congratulations to awardees Paul Barresi, Gary Carlin, Allison Cummings, Ron DePeter, Phil Fellman, Marilyn Fenton, Margaret Harris, Dennis Shea, and Cathy Stavenger.

The Center provides a limited number of such grants to attend approved teaching conferences in order to support the scholarship of teaching at SNHU.

The next deadline for conference applications will be **October 31, 2010**. We look forward to proposals that focus on innovative ways to improve teaching. Awardees will make presentations as soon as is feasible after attending. The Faculty Center will circulate a schedule. We see this initiative as yet another way to advance collegiality as well as teaching effectiveness.

Christos and Mary Papoutsy

Distinguished Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility

VPAA Patricia A. Lynott is pleased to announce the establishment of the Christos and Mary Papoutsy Distinguished Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility. The fund will support a faculty member to engage in activities to “educate students and staff of Southern New Hampshire University and the greater community on the social and ethical issues facing today’s global environment.” The university is extremely grateful to Christos and Mary Papoutsy for providing yet another unique opportunity for our Southern New Hampshire University faculty.

For interested faculty members, if appointed to serve as the distinguished chair, you will serve for two years. During the first year, you will focus on conducting ethics research related to your primary field. To allow time for this research, you will have no teaching responsibilities during the first semester of the academic year and one half a teaching load for the second semester. During the second year, you will have a range of responsibilities, which include, teaching that is based on the prior research, and involving the campus and external community in dialogues regarding ethical practices.

The specific criteria and descriptions of the application process are attached to this Journal. The selection of the Christos and Mary Papoutsy Distinguished Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility will be on a competitive basis. Good luck!

SENATE NEWS

Submitted by Susan Schragle-Law

President LeBlanc reviewed the most recent changes to the COCE policy document based on last month’s discussion with the Senators and an open meeting held with faculty. He also gave an update of the current situation as we seek to balance this year’s budget and think forward to the next couple of years.

The Senate also engaged in a further discussion of the Follett Bookstore and suggested a subcommittee be formed to look into faculty issues and concerns.

Beth Sheehan gave an overview of the proposed College Unbound Program. The university is currently exploring this. A document explaining this program is available on the Senate Bb site.

If any faculty has issues for discussion, contact your Senator or the Senate Executive Board.

The Faculty Senate meets the third Wednesday of each month at 2 pm in Hospitality 202.

In Loving Memory



Poe

Patty Lynott lost her Great Pyrnees, Poe. The Office of Academic Affairs wishes to honor his memory. He had a “large” personality and will be missed.

Services provided by Instructional Support

Submitted by Aaron Flint



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The Instructional Support team provides a wide variety of support and training to faculty, staff, and students. Following is a brief overview of the many instructional technologies we support and services we provide. The list below is not exhaustive. We support a lot of things. If it is an academic technology and not on the list, contact us. If we haven't done it, touched it, or experimented with it, we'll figure it out.

First, to introduce our staff... The team consists of Linda McCabe, Lauren Andresen, and Aaron Flint. We each have experience with and provide support for all of the technologies and services listed below, but to streamline service, we each take lead roles on different services. If you need assistance, get in touch with the primary contact listed.

In addition, we have 4 student workers who assist with support and training. They are Eric Moore, Greg Preston, Gabby McNevin, and Dan Marquis. In the spring terms our student workers will be offering training classes on RefWorks and a couple other topics to be determined. More details later.

The services we provide:

Service

1. Blackboard support and training
2. Chalk & Wire e-Portfolio support and training
3. RefWorks/RefShare/RefGrab-it
4. Qualtrics support and training
5. TurningPoint/ResponseWare
6. iTunes U/podcasting
7. Turnitin
8. SPSS support
9. Microsoft Office support and training
10. Acadweb/IT Servers (website setup, support, training)
11. CoursEval support and training
12. Acadlist Listserv setup, support, training
13. Software questions (purchasing, licensing, support)
14. Survey design consultation and assistance
15. Data analysis/statistics consultation and training
16. Blogs/Wikis
17. Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)
18. Interactive classroom (RFH228) – enoboard, copycam
19. Google Docs
20. Adobe Acrobat Connect/webinars
21. CD and DVD duplication services
22. MSDN Academic Alliance
23. iPhone Developer Program
24. Investigation of new academic technologies

Primary Contact

Linda McCabe
Lauren Andresen
Aaron Flint
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Any of us
Aaron Flint
Aaron Flint
Any of us
Linda McCabe
Aaron Flint
Any of us

If you would like training on any of the above, please get in touch with the primary contact. We do not schedule many workshops as we prefer to meet with individuals or small groups, so that we can customize the training to your skill level and needs.

Please feel free to contact us by phone, email, etc. or stop by to see us in Stark Hall, Room 40.

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To subscribe to Instructional Support's blog go to <http://is.snhu.edu/>.

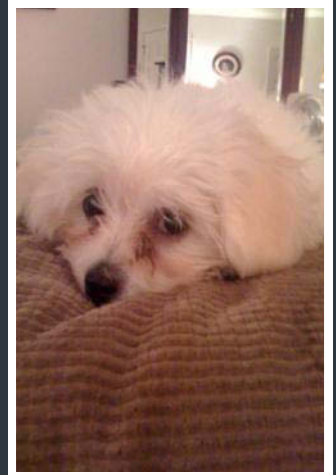
New Additions



IT'S A GIRL!

Dick Erskine with his new granddaughter.

Cora Sophia was born 12-8-09. She weighed 7lbs 6oz and was 20" long.



Charley

Patty and Chuck (the pug) want to welcome Charley, her new Bichon-Shitzu puppy. We hope she will bring much joy to her household and create many new beloved memories.

Reflection & Renewal 2010 (or the event formerly known as “Closure”!)

by Debbie Wilcox

Dear Faculty –

As you know, we have been working diligently on the Academic Plan which we hope to have completed by the end of January. I thought I would attach the minutes of the last meeting in which I invited Paul to meet with the Deans and discuss our progress to date. It has been a great deal of work, but I have every confidence that our “finished product” will serve as an excellent “blueprint” for building our future.

Patricia A. Lynott

Please refer to the minutes from the 12/08/09 AC meeting with Paul LeBlanc that are attached with this newsletter.

“R&R 2010” will take place the weeks of May 10 and 17, 2010. Sara Wilson and I have been in planning mode for several months now. The basic schedule is roughed out and is much the same as last year. Monday, May 10 will begin with the VPAA’s general meeting for everyone in Academic Affairs in the morning, with the afternoon set aside for school faculty meetings. Tuesday morning is reserved for department meetings. On Thursday, May 13, we will have Barbara Walvoord back on campus for the day to continue our work on Assessment. There will be a workshop for department chairs and their faculty to continue the fine work they began this past May, as well as time for the General Education and Assessment committees to meet with Walvoord. All academic governance committees will have meeting times in week one as will SNHUPEA. There are likely to be programs on the Common Book, new Library databases, and technology updates from Aaron Flint and his staff. Friday night, May 14 is reserved for the Honors Convocations and Commencement will be Saturday May 15.

The week of May 17 will likely showcase longer workshops for specific audiences, such as SNHU 101 faculty training and something sponsored by the Writing Enhancement Team. The Faculty Senate will meet 12-2 pm on Wednesday, May 19 over lunch.

I cannot write about Reflection and Renewal without publicly thanking Sara Wilson for all her help with planning these events. The Academic Affairs Office could not have done this so efficiently and successfully without Sara’s collaboration. Sara is clear-thinking, intelligent, super-organized, and fun to work with! We are losing an invaluable colleague, but we wish her only the best in her move to Bellingham, WA. We will miss you Sara!

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE CATALOGS 2010-2011

Submitted by Debbie Wilcox

Believe it or not, catalog preparation season is upon us again! The 2010-2011 catalogs will be **online only** for the first time in SNHU history. However, the preparation process is just as long and detailed.

I am currently contacting all schools and departments to meet with designated contacts for catalog content.

The deadline for all changes and new material is **January 29, 2010**. We are anticipating that the 2010-2011 catalogs will be up on the web by June 4, 2010.

I would particularly like to remind all school Curriculum Committees to pass all course and program changes in sufficient time for the University Curriculum Committee to address them before the deadline.

Thank you all for your help.
Debbie Wilcox
Associate Dean of the Faculty
629-4640
d.wilcox@snhu.edu

Faculty Center announces a Spring, 2010 Faculty Book Discussion Series on Wednesdays

Submitted by Eleanor Dunfey-Freiburger

Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 14.
All discussions will be from
3:30-4:30pm in “The Quill”
(Refreshments Served)

Book 1

Title: The Freshmen Year, Rebekah Nathan
Discussion Date: Wednesday
February 10, 2010, 3:30-4:30 in “The Quill”

**BE ONE OF THE FIRST 10 TO SIGN UP FOR THIS
DISCUSSION AND RECEIVE A FREE COPY OF THE
BOOK.**

Books should be arriving in the VPAA’s office by noon on Monday, Dec. 21. Email your name to Eleanor (e.dunfey@snhu.edu) to reserve your copy for pick up next week or after the holidays. The first 10 will have their free copy waiting!